

SN-US005186

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

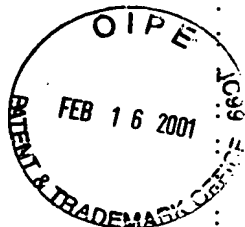
In re Application of

Takanori Kanehisa et al.

Serial No.: 09/728,086

Filed: December 4, 2000

For: BICYCLE HUB WITH SPACER AND
DETACHABLE FREEWHEEL



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the attached references to the Examiner's attention and requests that they be considered and made of record in this application. Also attached is a completed PTO-1449 form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application. Accordingly, no fee is believed to be required. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2042.

European Patent Publication No. 890 505 basically discloses a hub formed of several pieces, as seen in Figures 1A and 1B. A member 66 appears to be mounted between a pair of outer tubular members, as seen in Figure 1A and Figure 3.

European Patent Publication No. 835 188 appears to disclose a hub formed of several pieces, as seen in Figure 1. An outer tubular portion appears to be rotatably mounted about a multiple-piece shaft and has a plurality of disk-members 16 coupled thereto.

French Patent Publication No. 1,093,378 discloses a hub with a multi-part shaft and a multi-part outer tubular portion, as seen in Figures 1 and 3. The parts of the outer tubular portion appear to be non-rotatably coupled together via mating gear teeth.

French Patent Publication No. 2,188,551 discloses a hub formed of several pieces coupled together, as seen in Figures 1-4. It appears that a member 10 includes a plurality of teeth for non-rotatably engaging a mating member 4, as seen in Figures 9 and 15.

French Patent Publication No. 2,501,124 discloses a hub with a multi-part shaft and a multi-part outer tubular member rotatably mounted on the shaft, as seen in Figure 1. It appears that portions 3 and 6 are engageable with each other.

French Patent Publication No. 2,776,612 appears to disclose a hub with a main body 10 and a detachable freewheel 16, as seen in Figure 1. Several other embodiments appear to be disclosed in Figures 2A-6B.

German Patent Publication No. DBP 1155355 discloses a hub with a central portion and an outer portion rotatably mounted on the central portion, as seen in Figure 1. It appears that the central portion is made of several pieces threadedly coupled together, and that the outer portion is made of several pieces coupled together in a non-rotatable manner via teeth 30 and member 29, as seen in Figure 3.

Italian Patent Publication No. 596057 appears to disclose a hub formed of several pieces coupled together, as seen in Figure 2. It appears that a pair of outer tubular members are formed with mating teeth, non-rotatably engaged with each other.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 55-51601 basically discloses a multi-part hub, as seen in Figures 1 and 2. It appears that member 25 has mating portions 29 engaged with portion 22, as also seen in Figures 1 and 2.

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick A. Hilsmier
Reg. No. 46,034

SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP
1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202)-293-0444
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